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NO. 0368 P. 1

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Date/Time: March 9, 2004

Pages (including cover): 09

Attorney 1900

Client/Matter #: 100725-00017

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## PLEASE DELIVER TO:

Name/Company  
Examiner Sikyin Ip  
Art Unit 1742  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax #  
571-273-1241

Verify #  
571-272-1241

## MESSAGE/INSTRUCTIONS

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/673,235  
Filed: December 1, 2000  
Title: *Spring With Excellent Fatigue Endurance Property  
And Surface Treatment Method for Producing the Spring*  
By: ISHIDA et al.

Dear Examiner Ip:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation this morning, March 9, 2004, attached please find copies of the following documents filed on December 6, 2000 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449 dated December 6, 2000;
2. English Abstracts for Japanese Application Nos. 61099625, 63267164, 02311268, and 06240303; and
3. U.S. Postcard Receipt (showing the IDS was filed and received by the PTO on December 6, 2000).

Please return a copy of the PTO Form 1449 with your initials to us.

Respectfully submitted,

*King L. Wong*  
King L. Wong  
Registration No. 37,500

Customer No. 004372  
ARENT FOX PLLC  
229502\_1.DOC

PLEASE CALL OUR FAX OPERATOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF TRANSMISSION IS NOT COMPLETE: 202/857-6119

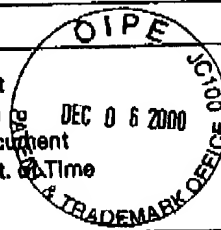
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Arent Fox PLLC

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WASHINGTON DC NEW YORK

Patent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trademark <input type="checkbox"/>	Docket No.	P100725-00017
Serial No.	09/673,235	Filed	October 19, 2000
Applicant(s) ISHIDA et al.			
Papers filed herewith on December 6, 2000			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fees \$		<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Application		<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration of	
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment		<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Document	
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal		<input type="checkbox"/> Req. for Ext. of Time	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDS/PTO-1449 (4 refs.)		<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			



Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated in connection with the above-identified case.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

DTN/hk

**PATENT APPLICATION****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

ISHIDA et al.

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: 09/673,235

Examiner:

Filed: October 19, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: P100725-00017

For: SPRING WITH EXCELLENT FATIGUE ENDURANCE PROPERTY AND SURFACE  
TREATMENT METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SPRING

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 6, 2000

Sir:

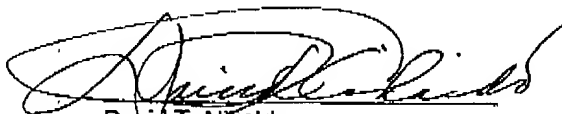
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Application No.

- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 5. In the event any fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

David T. Nikaido  
Registration No. 22,663

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4 References